

1 November 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Telephone Contact with GDESSAU on 31 October 1966

1. GDESSAU called and said that GDr. RASP had obtained the answers he was seeking. He indicated that GDr. RASP had called [] on Sunday, 30 October and had allegedly learned from [] that the DDSAT would be most happy to enter into a formal relationship with GDr. RASP and that they were prepared to do so as soon as GDr. RASP returned PCS to the United States. (He used the words "Begrueessen" and "Bereit") GDESSAU said that he and GDr. RASP were pleased with this decision but GDESSAU asked that it be communicated to him in some kind of formal manner. This took me somewhat by surprise as it seemed to be diametrically opposed to the information which I had received from [] of the DDSAT on Friday, 28 October. I said to GDESSAU that it was my understanding that no formal decision had been reached and I indicated that it would be necessary to get Munich into the act before a formal decision could be made. GDESSAU said that he understood this completely and said further that he was even at that moment dictating a letter which GDr. RASP would carry back with him for presentation to our base in Munich. I understood that this letter was to be the formal notification from the BND to CIA that they are sending GDr. RASP here as their representative. I told GDESSAU that we could hardly fully react to a proposal until such time as a formal request is made and I indicated that his answer would have to await receipt of the letter from the BND.

2. GDESSAU said that he was also writing a letter to the "Doktor" urging him not to delay too long in naming a new date for his visit to the United States. GDESSAU expressed some concern that CIA representatives fully understand the reason for Gehlen's desire to postpone his visit and he asked whether I had any indication that there might be some misunderstanding. I replied that insofar as I had heard anything at all, it had reflected a complete understanding of Gehlen's desire to postpone the visit because of the internal political situation in Germany. GDESSAU said that in his letter to the "Doktor" he had suggested the month of February as the most suitable time to re-schedule the visit. He said that he had picked February feeling that it was too close to Christmas to try to re-schedule

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the visit for this year. He stressed, however, his conviction that the visit should not be delayed unduly.

3. @DESSAU noted that he had been extremely busy over the weekend in that he had two house guests, @Dr. RASP and [] He noted that [] left for Calgary on Sunday afternoon and that @Dr. RASP was leaving on Monday evening.

4. We spoke briefly about the @DEGENHARDT visit but only to rehash matters which we had previously discussed. @DESSAU said that he would not be available on Tuesday (1 November) since it is a German holiday. He indicated that he planned to spend it at home doing some work which had been neglected, i.e. relaying a carpet runner on his stairway, cleaning rugs, and generally helping to straighten up the house. He said that he would be in our building on Wednesday for his usual briefing and as planned to see each other then.

[]
C/E/G/CE